Import of Kerosene by private parties

*88. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted private parties to import kerosene, and distribute to the public;

(b) how many parties have been permitted to import keresene; and

(c) what are the guidelines issued to the private parties for distribution of the imported kerosene?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS: (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Under the Parallel Marketing System, the private parties are allowed to import and market Kerosene at market determined prices through their own network of dealers, under their own terms.

(b) Individual parties do not need specific permission from this Ministry for import, as kerosene had been decanalised.

(c) The parallel marketing of Kerosene has been permitted under the provisions of kerosene (Restriction on Use and Fixation of Ceiling Price) Order, 1993, which only requires that the parallel marketeers should intimate to Government their intension and capabilities to import, transport, market, distribute or sell before comencement of these activities and submit a monthly return giving details of Kerosene imported by them. No licence is to be issued by the Central Government. However, distributors may have to follow local applicable rules.

Forged vouchers for LPG connections

*89. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that over five lakhs of Gas connections have been issued against bogus Termination Voucher and if so, what action Government propose to take;

(b) whether the petroleum vigilance body has been advised to investigate in this matter; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that various gangs are operating all over the country in circulating bogus Termination Vouchers in league with LPG distributors and oil company employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) There have been reports of LPG connections obtained by unscruplous elements against bogus/fake Termination Vouchers.

(b) and (c) Whenever such cases come to the notice of LPG marketing oil companies, they are investigated. If the same is established, the deposit of such customers is forfeited and the equipments withdrawn/recovered. The matter is also reported to Police for investigation, and further legal action.

Shipping of internal security academy from Mount ABU

*90. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to shift the Internal Security Academy to some other place from Mount Abu;

(b) if so, what are the circumstances which compelled Government to take such a decision;

(c) whether it is also a fact that proper facilities are not available for the trainee jawans; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken/likely to be taken by Government to provide better training facilities for the

trainees to make them expert in the field?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Infrastructural facilities at the Internal Security Academy, Mt. Abu, are inadequate and cannot be strengthend since the local municipal laws prohibit further construction. Training is affected adversely due to the shortage of space, excessive rain and difficulties in net-working with other training institutions. The decision to shift the Academy to another station will enable provision of better trainning facilities to the trainees.

Offer of oil fields to private sector

*91. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of oil fields offered to private sector including details of the total areas covered by the offers in terms of percentage and area of ONGC all over India;

(b) what are the terms of offers and contracts and circumstances that led to inviting private sector in the oil and gas fields;

(c) what are the reasons that the gas and oil fields that were discovered are offered to private sector with details thereof;

(d) whether the running gas and oil fields are being offered to private sector;

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the ONGC workers would be rendered surplus where they are currently employed on gas and oil fields;

(g) if so, what is the expected surplus labour and their future prospects;

(h) whether it is profitable for ONGC to lease oil and gas fields to private sector; and

(i) whether it is profitable for private sector to exploit oil and gas fields when ONGC failed to make them profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) In August, 1992, 31 small sized and 12 medium sized oil and gas fields were offered for development by Indian and foreign private companies. A further offering of 33 small sized and 8 medium sized fields have been made by the Government in October, 93.

Out of these fields, 47 oil fields and 17 gas fields have been discovered by ONGC. The oil bearing area of the 47 oil fields is approximately 27.8 per cent of the total oil bearing area established by the ONGC, all over India.

(b) and (c) The salient terms and conditions laid down are:

(i) The medium sized fields would be developed through joint-ventures between Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC)/Oil India Limited (OIL) on the one hand and private companies on the other. These joint venture could be either incorporated or unincorporated. Where incorporated, ONGC/OIL would have a 49% share in the equity. In unincorporated venutres, ONGC/OIL share would be 40%.

(ii) The small sized fields would be developed by companies on their own, with no participation by ONGC/OIL, under production sharing contracts to be signed by the companies with the Government of India.

(iii) Provision also exist:

(a) for payment of signature/production bonuses;

(b) for the companies bearing their share of statutory levels like royalty, cess, customs duty, sales tax etc;